

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims replaces the listings of the claims in the present patent application:

Listing of Claims:**1-49. (Cancelled)**

50. (Currently Amended) A system for providing a wireless communications device access to an instant messaging service on a data network, the instant messaging service communicating instant messages in an instant message format, the system comprising:

- a wireless communication network;

- a battery associated with the wireless communications device, in which a processor associated with the wireless communication device receives power from the battery and can control and monitor the discharge state of the battery;

- an active state, in which the wireless communication device is powered up but is not connected to the wireless communication network so that power consumption by the wireless communications device is minimized;

- a short message service (SMS) center connected to the wireless network;

- a proxy server having a first connection to the SMS center and a second connection to the data network, the proxy server for establishing a substitute proxy presence on the data network for the wireless communications device, the proxy server for transmitting presence information to the instant messaging service, after receiving login information associated with the instant messaging service, wherein the login information is communicated from the wireless communication device;

- the proxy server configured to maintain the presence information even when a data connection does not exist between the wireless communication device and the wireless network, the proxy server for intercepting and storing an instant message addressed to the wireless communications device, when the wireless communication device is in the active state;

the proxy server configured to convert at least a portion of the intercepted instant message to a short message format, and sends a converted message with the portion of the intercepted message to the wireless communications device through the wireless network via the SMS center;

the proxy server configured to convert an identifier of a sender of the intercepted instant message to a short message format and sends the converted identifier of the sender to the wireless communications device;

the proxy server configured to save the entire intercepted instant message for a period of time, wherein a data connection to connect to the proxy server enables viewing the entire intercepted instant message;

a plurality of information handling systems connected to the data network and logged into the instant messaging service for sending and receiving the instant messages; [[and]]

the wireless communications device configured to receive the portion of the [[short]] intercepted instant message while the wireless communications device is in the active state and while no connection to the data network is active to minimize power consumption by the wireless communications device; and

the proxy server configured to receive a response short message from the wireless communications device that is addressed to an information handling system of the plurality of information handling systems, converts the response short message to an instant message format response message, and sends the instant message response message to the information handling system.

51. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 50, wherein the proxy server notifies the SMS center that the instant message addressed to the wireless communications device has been received.

52. (Cancelled)

53. (Cancelled)

54. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 50, wherein the SMS center stores the converted message.

55. (Cancelled). ~~The system of claim 50, wherein the proxy server receives a response short message from the wireless communication device that is addressed to an information handling system of the plurality of information handling systems, converts the response short message to an instant message format response message, and sends the instant message response message to the information handling system.~~

56. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 50, wherein the proxy server receives an indication that the wireless communications device is in an inactive state, and wherein the proxy server removes the substitute proxy server presence upon receipt of the indication that the wireless communications device in the inactive state.

57. (Currently Amended) A method for providing a wireless communications device access to an instant messaging service connected to a data network, wherein the wireless communication device includes a battery and a processor that receives power from the battery and can control and monitor the discharge state of the battery, the method comprising the steps of:

communicating an active state, in which the wireless communication device is powered up but not connected to the wireless communication network so that power consumption by the wireless communications device, from the wireless communications device to a wireless network, wherein the wireless network is connected to a short messaging service (SMS) center, the SMS center is connected to a proxy server, and the proxy server is connected to the data network;

transmitting presence information from the proxy server to the instant messaging service, after receiving login information associated with the instant messaging service, wherein the login information is communicated from the wireless communication device;

the proxy server configured to maintain the presence information even when a data connection does not exist between the wireless communication device and the wireless network;

the proxy server configured to maintain the presence information as long as the wireless communications device remains in the active state status;

the proxy server determining that the wireless communications device is in the active state if the wireless communications device is responsive to a special SMS message that is periodically sent by the proxy server to the wireless communications device;

the proxy server configured to convert at least a portion of the intercepted instant message to a short message format, and sends a converted message with the portion of the intercepted message to the wireless communications device through the wireless network via the SMS center;

the proxy server configured to convert an identifier of the sender of the at least one instant message from the instant message format to SMS format, and sends the converted identifier to the wireless communications device;

the proxy server configured to save the entire intercepted instant message for a period of time, wherein a data connection to connect to the proxy server enables viewing the entire intercepted instant message;

the proxy server intercepting and storing at least one instant message intended for the wireless communications device; [[and]]

the wireless communications device configured to receive the portion of the [[short]] intercepted instant message while the wireless communications device is in the active state and while no connection to the data network is active to minimize power consumption by the wireless communications device; and

the wireless communications device sending a response message transmitted in short message service format to the proxy server; and

the proxy server converting the response message to instant message format and transmitting the converted response message over the data network.

58. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 57 further comprising the steps of:

the proxy server converting at least a portion of the at least one instant message to short message service (SMS) format;

sending the converted message to the SMS center;

the SMS center sending the converted message to the wireless network; and the wireless network delivering the converted message to the wireless communications device.

59. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 57, further comprising the step of: the proxy server notifying the wireless communications device through the SMS center and the wireless network that the at least one instant message has been received.

60. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 59, wherein the step of notifying comprises the steps of:

the proxy server converting at least a portion of the at least one instant message from instant message format to short message service (SMS) format; and

sending the converted message to the wireless communications device through the SMS center.

61. (Cancelled)

62. (Cancelled) ~~The method of claim 58, further comprising the steps of:~~

~~the wireless communication device sending a response message transmitted in short message service format to the proxy server; and~~

~~the proxy server converting the response message to instant message format and transmitting the converted response message over the data network.~~

63. (Cancelled)